



Fact Sheet

SC Department of Health and Environmental Control • 2600 Bull Street • www.scdhec.gov • Promoting and protecting the health of the public and the environment

North Charleston Air Monitor

What is an air monitor?

An air monitor is a piece of equipment that measures the amount of pollution in the air.

Why is DHEC installing the North Charleston Air Monitor?

The redevelopment of part of the old Naval Base by the State Ports Authority, and the planned changes to the nearby road systems have raised concerns about current and future air quality in the surrounding communities. A monitor in the area will allow DHEC to measure the air quality now, provide better information to communities and see what impact the port expansion and new traffic has on the area. The State Ports Authority has agreed to fund an air monitor in the Charleston Neck area to help measure any changes in the air quality as the port begins operation.

Where will the North Charleston Air Monitor be located?

The North Charleston Air Monitor will be measuring the air quality in the communities around the old Naval Base and the Port. The exact location of the North Charleston Air Monitor has not yet been determined, but it will represent the air quality in local neighborhoods including: Rosemont, Silver Hill, Four Mile, Five Mile, Union Heights, Howard Heights, Chicora-Cherokee, Accabee, Windsor, Dorchester Terrace, and Pettigru.

How will the location be determined?

DHEC has been working with residents of the nearby neighborhoods to determine locations for five temporary samplers across the area. Information from the temporary monitors will help DHEC determine the best location for the North Charleston Air Monitor.

How long will the temporary monitors operate?

DHEC expects to operate the temporary monitors for about 2 months.

What pollutants will the North Charleston Air Monitor measure?

The main focus of the North Charleston Air Monitor site will be measuring the amounts of fine particulate matter. Particulate matter includes all particles found in the air, including dust, dirt, soot, smoke, and liquid droplets. Once the monitor is set up, it can be used to measure other pollutants related to the port expansion, local industry, and traffic to help provide answers to DHEC and the community about the air quality.



Temporary Sampler

The readings collected by automated instruments and air samples collected at the monitoring site will be sent to DHEC's air quality lab in Columbia for evaluation. Air monitoring results will be made available on a regular basis. Some of the automated measurements will be available on the internet within a few hours of being collected.

Who can I contact for more information?

For additional information, please contact Susan Yates at (843) 953-0150.